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ABSTRACT

This publication provides statistical information from a nationwide survey of 1,000 Americans with disabilities, aged 16 and older, that was conducted in April and May of 1998. It is designed to provide comprehensive and up-to-date measures in a number of areas, including: (1) the nature and severity of the disability; (2) participation in important life activities, e.g., employment and socialization, plus financial status and lifestyles of Americans with disabilities and how they have changed over the last 12 years; (3) job discrimination and the presence of barriers and unfavorable attitudes in the workplace; (4) familiarity with the Americans with Disabilities Act; (5) the special needs of those with disabilities, including equipment, technology, and personal assistance; (6) the sense of common identity shared by adults with disabilities, and changes over the past 4 years; (7) access to health care and satisfaction with services; and (8) participation in religious services. The survey found that large gaps still exist between adults with disabilities and other adults with regard to employment, education, income, frequency of socialization, and other major areas of life. Appendices describe the methodology of the study and include the survey questionnaire. (CR)

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